

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A mobile information communication device which supports information exchange and fostering of human relations between a plurality of users, comprising:

a wireless communication unit which transmits and receives wireless communication data;

a metadata storage unit which stores, in the mobile communications device, metadata relating to activities and interests of a user of the mobile communication device, said metadata includes a log providing information on locations visited by the user; and

a central control unit which manages the storage of metadata in said metadata storage unit, wherein said central control unit:

partitions said metadata storage unit by security level and category,

stores metadata received through said wireless communication unit in a corresponding partition of the metadata storage unit based on matching the received metadata with a security level and/or category predetermined by the user, and

supplies, in response to an external access request, metadata from the metadata storage unit that matches a security level available to the external access request.

Claim 2 (Cancelled).

Claim 3 (Original): The information communication device according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a user input unit for the user of the device to write metadata directly into said metadata storage unit.

Claim 4 (Original): The information communication device according to Claim 1, wherein

said central control unit sets a higher security level for data transmitted through a relatively secure communication path and a lower security level for other transmitted data.

Claim 5 (Original): The information communication device according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a virtual person growing means which grows a virtual person corresponding to the user based on the user's history information accumulated in said metadata storage unit.

Claim 6 (Original): The information communication device according to Claim 1, further comprising:

a format setting unit which converts the format of metadata taken out of said metadata storage unit as requested by a requesting party.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A method for information communication which supports information exchange and fostering of human relations, comprising:

receiving metadata relating to activities and interests of a user of a mobile information communication device via a wireless communication of the mobile information communication device, said metadata including a log providing information on locations visited by the user;

storing the received metadata in a partitioned storage unit of the mobile information communication device based on matching the received metadata with a security level and/or category predetermined by the user; and

supplying, in response to an external access request, metadata from the partitioned metadata storage unit that matches a security level available to the external access request, wherein

the metadata is stored in the partition of the storage unit based on the security level and/or category of the metadata.

Claim 8 (Cancelled).

Claim 9 (Original): The method for information communication according to Claim 7, wherein

in said metadata storing step, data directly written by the user is stored.

Claim 10 (Original): The method for information communication according to Claim 7, further comprising:

a security level setting step in which a higher security level is set for data transmitted through a relatively secure communication path and a lower security level is set for other transmitted data.

Claim 11 (Original): The method for information communication according to Claim 7, further comprising:

a virtual person growing step in which a virtual person corresponding to the user is grown based on the user's history information accumulated in said metadata memory.

Claim 12 (Original): The method for information communication according to Claim 7, further comprising:

a format setting step in which the format of metadata taken out of said metadata memory is converted as requested by a requesting party.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): An information exchange and human relation fostering support system for supporting information exchange and fostering of human relations between a plurality of users in the virtual world, comprising:

a plurality of mobile information communication devices each including:

a wireless communication unit which transmits and receives wireless communication data,

a metadata storage unit which stores, in the mobile communications device, metadata relating to activities and interests of a user of the mobile communication device, said metadata including a log providing information on locations visited by the user, and

a central control unit which manages the storage of metadata in said metadata storage unit; and

at least one stationary communication device configured to acquire metadata from each mobile information communication device via a wireless transmission, compare the acquired metadata and display the result of the comparison.

Claim 14 (Cancelled).

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The information exchange and human relation fostering support system according to Claim 13, wherein

said at least one stationary communication device acquires metadata in accordance with the highest security level in those set by the users concerned.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): An information exchange and human relation fostering supporting method for supporting information exchange and fostering of human relations on the virtual world, comprising:

transmitting metadata to a plurality of mobile communications devices at a plurality of different physical locations, the metadata relating to activities and interests of a user of each mobile communication device and including a log providing information on locations visited by the user;

authenticating each mobile communication device within range of a stationary communication device with the stationary communication device;

uploading the metadata from the authenticated mobile communication devices to the stationary communication device;

comparing the uploaded metadata to find matching activities and interests;

displaying the matching activities and interests and corresponding users discovered by the comparing;

deleting the uploaded metadata from the stationary communications device.

Claim 17 (Cancelled).

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The information exchange and human relation fostering support method according to Claim 16, wherein

in said uploading step, metadata is acquired in accordance with the highest security level in those set by the users concerned.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A computer readable medium including stored thereon a program which is written in a computer-readable format so that information communication for supporting information exchange and fostering of human relations is executed on a computer system, the program comprising:

receiving metadata relating to activities and interests of a user of a mobile information communication device via a wireless communication of the mobile information communication device, said metadata including a log providing information on locations visited by the user;

storing the received metadata in a partitioned storage unit of the mobile information communication device based on matching the received metadata with a security level and/or category predetermined by the user; and

supplying, in response to an external access request, metadata from the partitioned metadata storage unit that matches a security level available to the external access request, wherein

the metadata is stored in the partition of the storage unit based on the security level and/or category of the metadata.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A computer readable medium including stored thereon a program which is written in a computer-readable format so that processing for supporting information exchange and fostering of human relations on the virtual world is executed on a computer system, the program comprising:

transmitting metadata to a plurality of mobile communications devices at a plurality of different physical locations, the metadata relating to activities and interests of a user of

each mobile communication device and including a log providing information on locations visited by the user;

authenticating each mobile communication device within range of a stationary communication device with the stationary communication device;

uploading the metadata from the authenticated mobile communication devices to the stationary communication device;

comparing the uploaded metadata to find matching activities and interests;

displaying the matching activities and interests and corresponding users discovered by the comparing;

deleting the uploaded metadata from the stationary communications device.

Claim 21 (New): A method for information communication via wireless communication which supports information exchange and fostering of human relations, comprising:

transmitting, from a stationary communication device having a first location, new metadata including the first location and information corresponding to the first location to a mobile device that is within range of the stationary communication device.

receiving, at the mobile device, the new metadata transmitted from the stationary communications device and storing the received new metadata in the mobile device in a metadata storage unit;

transmitting, from the mobile device to the stationary communication device, previous metadata stored in the metadata storage unit that matches a security level available to a external access request and that was previously received by the mobile device at locations different from the first location;

receiving, at the stationary communication device, the previous metadata transmitted from the mobile device relating to locations different from the first location and enabling the determination of activities and interests of a user of the mobile device;

comparing the previous metadata received from the mobile device with metadata received from other mobile devices that have connected to the stationary communication device; and

displaying on the stationary communication device, or transmitting to each matching mobile device, information indicating that a match of activities and interests was determined by the comparing.